

Message Text

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44

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 DOTE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03

H-02 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-12 RSR-01 /104 W

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R 231158 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 378

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRN, FR, XR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: ECAC MINIMUM FARES FOR CHARTERS

1. DOZ OF ECAC SECRETARIAT INFORMED US IN MEETING LAST WEEK (REPORTED IN PARIS A-375 ENROUTE) THAT ECAC MEMBERS HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE INTRODUCE MINIMUM FARES FOR ADVANCED BOOKING CHARTERS AND THAT THESE WOULD BE APPLICABLE TO U. S./ CANADA ORIGIN AS WELL AS EUROPEAN ORIGIN FLIGHTS. FORMAL RECOMMENDATION ALONG THESE LINES MIGHT BE ADOPTED AT ECAC TRIENNIAL SESSION AT STRASBOURG NEXT MONTH. WE ALERTED DOZ TO CAB POSITION (STATE 84164) THAT MINIMUM RATES ESTABLISHED WITHOUT CONSULTATION AND PRIOR AGREEMENT NOT CONSIDERED BINDING BY CAB FOR U. S.- ORIGIN TGC FLIGHTS.

2. WE HAVE SINCE RECEIVED FROM DOZ COPY OF DRAFT REPORT OF MAY 8 - 11 MEETING OF ECAC ECONOMIC COMMITTEE AT WHICH DRAFT RECOMMENDATION ON " PRICE CONTROL" OF ABC CHARTERS WAS APPROVED. MINIMUM FARES AS EXPRESSED THEREIN IN TERMS OF " RETURN SEAT STATUTE MILE" ARE \$2.20 FOR PERIODS APRIL 1, 1973 - MAY 31, 1973, AND OCTOBER 16, 1973 - MARCH 31, 1974, AND \$2.50 FOR PERIOD JUNE 1, 1973 - OCTOBER 15, 1973. FOOTNOTE INDICATES " RETURN SEAT" COMPUTATION USED SINCE ABC CHARTERS ARE

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ROUND TRIP ONLY AND FIGURE THUS BASED ON TOTAL MILEAGE FLOWN BOTH DIRECTIONS. ANOTHER FOOTNOTE INDICATES ABOVE SEAT- MILE RATES ARE PRE- DEVALUATION AND SHOULD BE REVISED UPWARDS AS APPROPRIATE BY EACH COUNTRY. DRAFT RECOMMENDATION FURTHER PROVIDES THAT FOR PRICE CONTROL PURPOSES \$0. 40 PER RETURN SEAT STATUTE MILE BELOW ABOVE MINIMUM FARES CAN BE CONSIDERED REASONABLE MAXIMUM MARGIN BETWEEN WHOLESALE AND RETAIL PRICE FOR FLIGHT.

3. TEXT OF DRAFT RECOMMENDATION MAKES NO EXPLICIT REFERENCE, HOWEVER, TO NON- EUROPEAN ORIGIN TRAFFIC OR TO TGC PER SE AS DISTINCT FROM ABC CHARTER. WHEN QUERIED ON THIS POINT, DOZ SAID THAT U. S./ CANADA- ORIGIN TRAFFIC COVERED BY REFERENCE IN PREAMBLE OF DRAFT RECOMMENDATION TO DECLEARATION OF AGREED PRINCIPLES ADOPTED AT OTTAWA AND APPROVED BY ECAC IN NOVEMBER 1972 WHICH SET FORTH GUIDELINES FOR BOTH TGC AND ABC CHARTERS.

4. COMMENT: FROM DOZ' S REACTION WAS EVIDENT DRAFT REPORT NAD BEEN SENT IN ERROR WITH BATCH OF OTHER DOCUMENTS ASSEMBLED FOR US BY HIS STAFF. TO AVOID POSSIBLE EMBARRASSMENT TO DOZ, THEREFORE, MIGHT BE PREFERABLE NOT CITE OUR POSSESSION DRAFT REPORT AT THIS TIME IN ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH ECAC MEMBER GOVERNMENTS.

5. TWO COPIES OF DRAFT REPORT POUCHED EB/ AVP.
DECONTROL FOLLOWING MAY 23, 1974.
IRWIN

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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